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STAT

OLL 84-3336
30 August 1984

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Personnel

VIA: Chief, Liaison Division/OLL

FROM: [redacted] STAT
Liaison Division/OLL

SUBJECT: Legislative Agenda for 99th Congress: Personnel Issues

1. Over the next three months I will keep you informed of the speculation (and gossip) I hear regarding legislative initiatives that can been expected next year. I will focus on personnel issues of concern to you. My primary services are majority and minority staffers on the House Post Office and Civil Service Committee and the Senate Government Operations Committee, and on the appropriate subcommitties. I will send this "soft" information directly to you with no other distribution outside of OLL.

2. As of the last week in August, all of the staffers I have talked with predict that next year Congress will enact a supplemental retirement package for Federal employees hired after 31 December 1983. Only two months ago, I heard mostly skepticism about the feasibility of this action; staffers suggested that Congress would more likely extend the present temporary system.

3. In terms of what this legislation will look like, the details are being closely held. I have heard the following general comments from various staffers:

a) Stevens in the Senate and Ford in the House will retain control of retirement legislation next year and both will introduce bills. They have not yet worked together but are tapping many of the same witnesses and services (e.g. Congressional Research Service, Federal employee union leaders).

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b) Both Ford and Stevens are described as "pro Federal employee" and it is expected that their supplemental retirement packages will come very close to the current Civil Service Retirement Systems in terms of the bottom line: what employees get for their investment.

c) I hear no discussion of plans in Congress to introduce legislation that is intended to change the Civil Service Retirement System; rather, both Ford and Stevens are expected to include provisions whereby Civil Service employees can elect the new system or retain Civil Service.

d) As of this date, majority and minority House and Senate staffers assume there will not be a change in the White House and that the Administration will be determined to cut the deficit. It is expected that the Administration will have introduced its own retirement legislation for post 31 December 1983 employees, and to change the current Civil Service System. Needless to say, staffers expect the Administration will be more intent on saving Federal money than on benefiting Federal workers.

3. No other personnel issues have surfaced. Again, this information is "soft" and the sources are politicians who play games.

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